establishing without user intervention a connection between the computer and a web site on the communications network responsive to the signal representing the commercial information.

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REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed the Office Action dated June 3, 2002. Applicants have amended Claims 1, 10, 11, 12 and 19 to more clearly point out the present inventive concept. The title of the application is amended to more closely identify the inventions therein. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Regarding Claims 1-23, rejected under 35 U.S.C. Sec. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,199,048 B1, Hudetz et al. (hereinafter, *Hudetz*), this rejection is respectfully traversed as follows.

Regarding independent Claims 1, 12 and 19 as amended, the third step (of Claims 1 and 19) or third element (of Claim 12) recites a feature of establishing a connection from the user's computer to a destination on a network *without user intervention*. Once the unique information is received (Claim 1) or the machine readable code is scanned (Claims 12 and 19), the connection of the user's computer to the destination occurs automatically.

In contrast, the process in *Hudetz* requires that "the *user selects* one of the links 102-106 (by mouse click or otherwise)." Emphasis added. See *Hudetz*, Col. 9, line 17-18. In other words, the user in Hudetz *must intervene* in the process and it is thus not automatic. Since *Hudetz* does not disclose the feature of Applicants' base claims wherein the connection of the user's computer to the destination occurs "without user intervention," *Hudetz* therefore does not anticipate either of Claims 1, 12 or 19 as amended. Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1, 12 and 19.

Regarding dependent Claims 2-11, 13-18 and 20-23, which respectively depend directly or ultimately from base Claims 1, 12 and 19 and thereby contain all the limitations thereof, these dependent

claims likewise are not anticipated by *Hudetz* and Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of these rejections.

Applicants have now made an earnest attempt in order to place this case in condition for allowance. For the reasons stated above, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of the claims as amended. Please charge any additional fees or deficiencies in fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Acccunt No. 20-0780/PHLY-24,737 of HOWISON, THOMA & ARNOTT, L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,
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September 3, 2002

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

1. (Amended) A method for interconnecting a user's location to a destination location on a network, comprising the steps of:

receiving [the] unique information at the user's location, which unique information has no associated routing information embedded therein;

[associating] returning network routing information, associated with the received unique information, from a database to the user's location in response to receipt [thereof] of the unique information; and

interconnecting, in response to the step of returning and without user intervention, the user's location to the destination location across the network in accordance with the [associated routing associated therewith in the step of associating] network routing information.

10. (Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of [associating] returning comprises:

forwarding the unique information to an intermediate location on the network in response to the step of receiving the unique information;

comparing the received unique information at the intermediate location with a database of routing information, which database of routing information includes a plurality of associative relationships between predetermined unique information and locations of various destination locations on the network; and

if an association between the received unique information and routing information on any of a plurality of destination locations on the network exists within [said] the database, returning the associated routing information back to the user location for effecting a network connection to the destination location indicated by the routing information.

11. (Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the steps of [associating] returning and interconnecting include the step of activating a web browser program which facilitates the interconnection over the network in response to receiving the unique information, which web browser program is operable to at least provide the interconnection of the user location to the destination location in accordance with the associated routing information.

12. (Amended) A system for launching a web [site] browser on a network, comprising:

a computer having a scanner input interface and a communication interface coupled to a computer network;

a scanner having an output coupled to said input interface for outputting a signal representing information encoded as machine readable code when said [form] code is scanned by said scanner; and

a program responsive to said signal output from said scanner for establishing and managing connection of said computer without user intervention, to a web site accessible on said computer network.

19. (Amended) A method for launching a web [site] browser on a network by scanning a machine readable code, comprising the steps of:

coupling a computer having an input interface for a scanner and a communication interface for coupling the computer with a communication network to the scanner and the network;

scanning the machine readable code having commercial information encoded therein and outputting a signal to the input interface of the computer representing the commercial information; and

establishing without user intervention a connection between the computer and a web site on the communications network responsive to the signal representing the commercial information.